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Wife Disputes Suicide Holding On CIA Analyst

The wife of John A. Paisley, the CIA analyst found floating in the Chesapeake Bay Oct. 1 with a bullet wound in his head, is not convinced her husband committed suicide, according to a private investigator she has hired.

Maryann Paisley is also concerned, the investigator said, that the body identified by Maryland police as Paisley's may not be her husband.

Kennard Smith, who was hired with Washington attorney Bernard Fensterwald by Mrs. Paisley to look into the circumstances of her husband's mysterious death, said yesterday, "There is confusion in her mind. . . She doesn't think he committed suicide.

Smith said he and Fensterwald have "entertained the idea" that the body may not be Paisley's, but "we have found no evidence of that."

Maryland police concluded that Paisley's head wound was probably "self-inflicted" although little evidence and no gun was ever found. Paisley disappeared Sept. 24 after he was seen sailing on the bay. A body, later identified as Paisley's, was found Oct. 1 near Lusby with the head wound and two diving belts strapped to his waist.